

The Outsiders: Final Writing Project

The Who: You! This is a solo paper. You will have opportunities to peer edit, but each student will write an independent paper.

The What: A five paragraph expository (meaning, it will **explain** and **describe**) essay. You will have the following paragraphs in your essay:

- Introduction Paragraph: With the core components of a introduction paragraph and a thesis statement
- 3 Body Paragraphs: With topic sentences, textual evidence, explanations, and conclusion sentences
- Conclusion Paragraph: With a thesis summary, a re-cap of your main ideas, and the “Big So What?”

The Where: Much of this project will be completed in class. With that being said, you must be on-task and focused in order to keep up with this timeline. No extensions will be given for students who did not use time appropriately. Sometimes you will be asked to complete portions of the work at home. It is important you adhere to the deadlines.

The When: This project is being introduced on **Tuesday, November 10**. Please know the following deadlines, though the dates are subject to change slightly:

- **Friday, November 13:** Outlines Due
- **Friday, December 4:** First Drafts Due
- **Thursday, December 17:** Final Papers Due

If a student finishes early, he or she will simply move on to the next step. If interested, he or she may also inquire about extension exercises and add-ons for the project.

The Why: This project is serving as the summary and cumulative assessment on *The Outsiders*. You will be assessed on your understanding of our core reading question: *How does an author use tools (e.g. Character Change) to support a theme?* and our writing question: *How do writers support thesis statements in their writing?*

PROMPT:

The Outsiders is a novel filled with conflict. Over the course of the novel, all of the characters change as a result of a major conflict or problem.

In a five paragraph expository essay, explain how one character’s (Pony, Dally, Darry, or Johnny) changes help build a theme in the novel. You must use direct quotes and textual evidence in your writing.